

Need of National Integration towards Nation Building and Development

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Introduction

India is a country of varied diversity; race, language; religion and caste etc. constitute the various forms of diversity in India. Not only do groups of people differ physically or demographic characteristics but also in distinctive patterns of behaviour. These patterns of behaviour vary and are determined by social and cultural factors like language, region, and caste. Castes are divided into sub-castes, language into dialects, region into sub regions, and religion into sects on ethnic lines. The Indian sub-continent is a museum of different races.

In the words of A.R. Desai

“India presents a spectacle of Museum of tongues”.

The vast population is composed of people having diverse creeds, beliefs, customs and faith. Economic development, education and political culture in various social segments differ for region to region. India is a sovereign State. Every part is governed by the same Constitution. The varied culture model helps for the preservation and expansion of cultures within frame work of united nation. The account of the unity of India must not be taken for granted that we always have had a peaceful sailing in matters of national unity, with no incidents of caste, communal and religious riots. There have been occasional riots and sometimes serious. For example, one cannot forget the linguistic riots in Tamil Nadu in protest against the imposition of Hindi, the riots in Gujarat between Hindus and Muslims.

In spite of all the unity and integrity, in spite of all the attempts of past and present national integration is hindered due to some factors. Along with these factors some new challenges have shown up during last decades. A host of interrelated factors have disrupted efforts to achieve goals of equality and social integration.

Some of the following components required for National Integration-

1. Diversity of Constituents:

India is a heterogeneous society. It is made of a number of diverse groups. The first potential threat to the Indian society

lies right here. Indian society is divided in terms of religion, caste, language and origin.

The British were able to somewhat control the diverse groups. But the divide and rule policy followed by the British was overthrown by nationalist movement when different groups united to remove the Britishers.

One of the more serious challenges that Indian national leaders face is uniting the interests of divergent groups. Attempts to minimize battles between conflicting groups do not succeed persistently. It is necessary that these divisions are not allowed to threaten the nation – state.

2. Role of political parties.

The regional political parties play a dilute role in exploiting the regional feeling of the people. Regional political parties formed on the basis of linguist at times form the government. The states like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Mizoram, Jammu and Kashmir may be treated as example in this regard it has been experienced that such political party is in power of often complicate the centre state relationship. In brief, it can be concluded that various forces pose challenges to National Integration of India.

The multi ethnic and multicultural setting of India and India's struggle to define its Nationhood since Nationalist movement provided is fertile soil for the Government of ethnanationalism and other forms of Identity Quest. India has believed in the past and believes today that creativity and change through continuity and sense Unity.

3. Ethno nationality and ethnic conflicts

Ethnic conflict is very familiar with context to Indian society. Which cause for danger situation to Indian society? It needs to control with specific parameters.

4. Communalism

Broadly defined, communalism refers to the tendency of any socio religious group in maximize its economic political and social strength at the cost of other group. There is historical evidence to prove that various religious communities in India

have coexisted peacefully through time of course, there is also evidence that reflects the conflict between religious communities the most well-known clash between Hindus and Muslims one of the major social problem of India in the 80s has been communal divide problem.

5. Tribal Identity:

About tribal there is specific ideology prolonged by various groups in most of the states in India. That's why it has given a birth to regional disparity and problem like naxalite.

6. Regional Disparities:

The unequal development of different regions of India has negatively affected the character of national integration. The unequal development has become the major cause of many social movements after the independence. For instance, the Jharkhand movements which involved tribal groups from Bihar, M.P. Bengal and Orissa stresses the backwardness of the region among other issues. While demanding a separate State, people, involved in this movement argue that the rich natural resources of the area have been drained out to benefit others.

The dissatisfaction caused by the perceived and / or actual threat of material deprivation has led people to think that the socio-economic development of their region is not possible if they continue to be a part of the Indian Union. Thus the regional disparities in terms of socio-economic development have at times proved to be a threat to the concept of united nation-state.

7. Social Inequalities:

In every society there is a system of social stratification. Social stratification refers to inequality in society based on unequal distribution of goods, services, wealth, power, prestige, duties, rights, obligations and privileges. Take for example, the social inequalities created by the caste system.

8. Linguist

Language has become, especially since Independence, a powerful source of political articulation. For instance in the South, particularly in Tamil Nadu, language sentiments have been propagated among the people for getting power within State politics.

9. Casteism

Unfortunately, the caste system has been recognized by the framers of the Constitution by providing a protective discrimination to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Though the reservation was made for a limited period, it is being extended from time to time. The reservation of seats in the educational institutions and jobs on the caste basis has strengthened the caste feeling and resulted in the possibilities of new types of inequalities and caste conflict.

From what has been discussed so far, it is obvious that the task of building a nation – state is not an easy excise. A growing realization is that national integration is the key to achieving a political identity.

Conclusion

Regionalism, castisem and racism etc dilute the social structure and construction of Indian society and threat to national integration. Some of the social elements having their separate cultural identity want to preserve it even at a political level and for this purpose some of these segments want further reorganization of the states.'

We find that national politics in our country is still marked by emergence of regional nationalities. This is quite evident in the formation of States on linguistic basis.

Despite the early gains of consolidation of the nation state, diverse cultural identities asserted themselves. Therefore it's a need of time to maintain national integration for social development and nation building.

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